

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims in order to delete the Group II claims as listed by the Examiner in Item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action mailed November 20, 2006 (specifically, Applicants have cancelled claims 6-12, 15-18, 21, 22, 24-26, 29-32, 36, 38 and 39 without prejudice or disclaimer, and, in particular, without prejudice to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the subject matter thereof).

In view of the present amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the restriction requirement set forth in Item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action mailed November 20, 2006, is moot. In any event, and in order to clearly provide a complete response to the Office Action mailed November 20, 2006, Applicants respectfully elect the Group I claims, which the Examiner contends are directed to a connection board, for prosecution on the merits in the above-identified application, this election being made without traverse.

The election-of-species requirement set forth in Item 3 on pages 2-4 of the Office Action mailed November 20, 2006, is noted. As Applicants have elected the Group I claims, Applicants further elect Specie II (Figure 1(d)) as listed on page 3 of the Office Action mailed November 20, 2006.

Of the Group I claims, which remain in the above-identified application, claims 1-5 read on the elected species.


In view of all of the foregoing, examination of the claims reading on the elected Specie II (Fig. 1(d)), that is, claims 1-5, in due course, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Authorization is herein given to charge any shortage in the fees,

including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 1204.43988X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP


William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

1300 North Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209
Tel.: 703-312-6600
Fax.: 703-312-6666

WIS/slk